

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:348

ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005

NON-AVAILABILITY OF NCERT BOOKS

Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Shandil Dr. (Col.) Dhani Ram

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the hardships being faced by the Students and teachers due to non-availability of NCERT textbooks on time;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure timely availability of NCERT textbooks in the market;
- (d) whether the Government is also aware that fake/pirated NCERT textbooks are being published in Delhi; and
- (e) if so, the mode to identify fake/pirated books and the action being taken against the publishers?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. THE STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS

(a) to

(e) OF THE REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 348 BY SHRIS.K. KHARVENTHAN AND DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL REGARDING NON-AVAILABILITY OF NCERT BOOKS DUE FOR ON THE 19TH APRIL, 2005.

(a) & (b) The Government is deeply concerned about the need for making timely availability of the textbooks to the students. The NCERT has already released as many as 217 titles of textbooks in the market and the remaining 20 are expected to be released within the next one week. The NCERT has already hosted 54 textbooks for classes IX to XII on its website www.ncert.nic.in for easy access to the material. Through this web based intervention it is expected that teachers and students even from schools not following the CBSE syllabus will get the access to the NCERT material.

(c) The NCERT is taking steps to review and reform its textbooks production and distribution system in order to ensure timely availability of textbooks to the students.

(d) & (e) The NCERT is now using watermark paper (insignia of NCERT watermarked) as a security measure for the identification of genuine books. Intimation to this effect is being given on the imprint page of each textbook, and message has been publicised in the media. Whenever, any case of piracy of the NCERT books comes to the notice of the NCERT through the clues provided either by any individual informer or by the Crime Branch of the police, immediate action is taken to book the culprits with the help of the area police.